

December 1, 2011

DEC Officials:

I urge you to put hydro-fracking permitting on hold until the DEC has adequate funding, a policy accepted by environmentalists and suitable protocols in place to be able to regulate it in a comprehensive and effective manner. This does not yet appear to be the case. Predictably the gas industry has been underestimating the risks and overestimating the benefits of this drilling technique; but the DEC needs to act responsibly to insure that negative and harmful consequences of fracking are mitigated or avoided, especially with respect to health and safety. As a lifelong New Yorker for over 60 years, I feel passionately about this issue and will continue to monitor the process and participate in hearings and rallies.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Madeleine Ernstoff". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Madeleine Ernstoff
105 Valley Road
Ithaca, NY 14850